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FACSIMILE MESSAGE

DATE: May 31, 2003 Our Ref.: RAY-120J
TO: Examiner Chambers
OF: USPTO
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FROM: Thomas E. Thompkins, Jr.
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Examiner Chambers:

Attached are ten (10) *draft proposed* independent claims 40, 52, 55 and 68-74, to serve as a focus for the telephone conference concerning Ser. No. 09/976,389. I appreciate the after Final status. However, draft proposed claims 55, 56, 71 and 72 include elements found only objectionable previously. Draft proposed claims 40, 52, 69 and 70 include an implicit element concerning the top plate as disclosed in the application, now made explicit. Draft proposed claims 73 and 74 are specific to a HMMWV vehicle (as was prior claim 38) but including the top plate.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to speaking with you Tuesday, June 3rd at 11:00 A.M.

Sincerely,

55, 68

Tom Thompkins

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1 40. A launcher platform comprising:
2 a support structure structured and arranged to be elevated and rotated and
3 including a top plate; and
4 a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for supporting missiles
5 thereon, including selected rails elevated above the other rails to accommodate additional
6 missiles and different type missiles while maintaining a low center of gravity, each selected
7 rail offset rearwardly from the other rails.

- 1 52. A launcher platform comprising:
- 2 a support structure structured and arranged to be elevated and rotated and
- 3 including a top plate; and
- 4 a plurality of rails on each side of the support structure, at least one rail on
- 5 each side elevated above the other rails and offset rearwardly from the other rails to
- 6 accommodate additional missiles and different type missiles.

55. A launcher platform comprising:

a monolithic platform support structure; and

a plurality of rails mounted on the monolithic platform support structure for supporting missiles thereon, the monolithic platform support structure including a set of mounting pads for each rail, selected rails elevated above the other rails to accommodate additional missiles and different type missiles while maintaining a low center of gravity.

68. A launcher platform comprising:
a monolithic platform support structure; and
a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for supporting missiles thereon, the monolithic platform support structure including a set of mounting pads for each rail with selected rails elevated above and offset rearwardly from the other rails to accommodate additional missiles and different type missiles while maintaining a low center of gravity.

69. A launcher platform comprising:

a platform support structure structured and arranged to be elevated and rotated and including a top plate; and

a plurality of rails disposed on the support structure to support missiles thereon having at least one rail elevated above the other rails.

jk 70. A launcher platform comprising:

a support structure structured and arranged to be elevated and rotated and including a top plate; and

a plurality of rails disposed on the support structure to support missiles thereon having at least one rail offset rearwardly from the other rails.



71. A launcher platform comprising:

a monolithic platform support structure; and

a plurality of rails disposed on the support structure to support missiles thereon having at least one rail elevated above the other rails, the monolithic platform support structure including a set of mounting pads for each rail.

72. A launcher platform comprising:
- a monolithic platform support structure; and
 - a plurality of rails disposed on the support structure to support missiles thereon having at least one rail offset rearwardly from the other rails, the monolithic platform support structure including a set of mounting pads for each rail.

- 1 *de* ✓ 73. A launcher platform comprising:
- 2 a support structure structured and arranged to be elevated and rotated and
- 3 including a top plate, the support structure mounted on an HMMWV vehicle; and
- 4 a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for supporting missiles
- 5 thereon, selected rails elevated above the other rails to accommodate additional missiles
- 6 and different type missiles while maintaining a low center of gravity.

- 1 *ja* 74. A launcher platform comprising:
2 a support structure structured and arranged to be elevated and rotated and
3 including a top plate, the support structure mounted on an HMMWV vehicle; and
4 a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for supporting missiles
5 thereon, selected rails offset from the other rails to accommodate additional missiles and
6 different type missiles while maintaining a low center of gravity.